on Patent Laws at New Delhi on the 22nd November, 1988. The Seminar resolved that the Indian Patents Act, 1970, in its scope and purpose, continues to represent Indian interest and requires no amendments.

(b) There is no proposal to amend the Indian Patents Act, 1970.

Modernisation of Rescue Stations at Coal Mines

630. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) has drawn up a programme to modernise its rescue stations at different mines;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what amount is likely to be spent thereon; and

(c) by when the modernisation programme of rescue stations at all the coal mines is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A programme for modernisation of the existing Rescue Station at Ramgarh and setting up of new Rescue Rooms at Kathara, Churi and Hutar, with adequate modern equipments, has been taken up. The modernisation programme entails an estimated expenditure of Rs. 690 lakhs and is expected to be completed by the end of the year 1991-92.

Thermal Power Plant at Hospet in Karnataka

631. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have since cleared the proposal for the establishment of a thermal power plant at Hospet in Bellary district of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, by when work on this project is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) No proposal in regard to the setting up of a thermal power plant at Hospet in Karnataka has been received in the Central Electricity Authority from the State Authorities.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Plant

632. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the likely optimum capacity of Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Plant when all its units become operational ;

(b) how many units of the Plant are at present generating power and also the total power generated so far;

(c) whether the work on the remaining units of the Plant is ahead of schedule ; if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) what is the total investment involved and the amount spent so far; and

(e) by when all the units are likely to be ready for power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) The approved ultimate